

**In Witness Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-seventh day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-eighth.

**George W. Bush**

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., August 28, 2003]

NOTE: This proclamation was published in the *Federal Register* on August 29.

**Memorandum on Export-Import Bank Support for U.S. Exports to Iraq**

*August 27, 2003*

Presidential Determination No. 2003-33

*Memorandum for the Secretary of State*

**Subject:** Determination on Export-Import Bank Support For U.S. Exports to Iraq

Consistent with section 2(b)(4) of the Export-Import Bank Act of 1945, as amended, I hereby determine and certify to the Congress that it is in the national interest for the Export-Import Bank to guarantee, insure, or extend credit, or participate in the extension of credit in support of United States exports to Iraq.

You are directed to report this determination to the Congress and to provide copies of the justification explaining the basis for this determination. You are further directed to publish this determination in the *Federal Register*.

**George W. Bush**

**Letter to Congressional Leaders Transmitting an Alternative Plan for Pay Increases for Civilian Federal Employees**

*August 27, 2003*

*Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)*

I am transmitting an alternative plan for across-the-board and locality pay increases payable to civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule (GS) and certain other pay systems in January 2004.

Under title 5, United States Code, civilian Federal employees covered by the GS and certain other pay systems would receive a two-part pay increase in January 2004: (1) a 2.7 percent across-the-board increase in scheduled rates of basic pay derived from Employment Cost Index data on changes in the wages and salaries of private industry workers, and (2) a locality pay increase based on Bureau of Labor Statistics' salary surveys of non-Federal employers in each locality pay area, which would cost about 10 percent of payroll for the calendar year. Including increases for blue-collar and other workers, the total Federal employee pay increase would cost about 13 percent of payroll in calendar year 2004. For Federal employees covered by the locality pay system, the overall average pay increase would be about 15.1 percent.

For each part of the two-part pay increase, title 5, United States Code, authorizes me to implement an alternative pay plan if I view the adjustment that would otherwise take effect as inappropriate due to "national emergency or serious economic conditions affecting the general welfare." For the reasons described below, I have determined that it would be appropriate to exercise my statutory alternative plan authority to limit the January 2004 GS pay increases.

A national emergency has existed since September 11, 2001, that now includes Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Full statutory civilian pay increases costing 13 percent of payroll in 2004 would interfere with our Nation's ability to pursue the war on terrorism. Such increases would cost about \$13 billion in fiscal year 2004 alone—\$11 billion more than the 2 percent overall Federal civilian